ELECTION:

Applicant elects Group I, claims 1-14, drawn to a liquid-handling system without prejudice.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel without prejudice claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 14, and 15-35.

Please amend claims 1 and 9 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A liquid-handling system for transferring liquid back and forth from at least one first container to at least one second container, comprising:

a first container;

a second container;

a housing encasing [said] the first container in [an] a pressure-tight manner;

[a] at least one capillary tube having predetermined length and a predetermined internal diameter, wherein a first end of [said] the tube is positioned near the bottom of [said] the first container, wherein [said] the tube extends through [said] the housing, terminating in a second end positioned at or above [said] the second container; and,

a computer-controlled pressure altering device, attached to the housing in a pressure tight manner, that changes the pressure within [said] the housing relative to the pressure outside the housing;

wherein the pressure-altering device applies a pressure differential that transfers liquids in either direction from a container having two or more capillaries.

9. (Twice Amended) The system as defined in claim 1, wherein [said] the capillary tube is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of polyamide, polyethylene, polypropylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, polyester, [PEEK (polyethylenetherketone)]

polyethylenetherketone, pulled glass, pulled glass with an external coating, and stainless steel [and other chemically nonreactive materials].

Please add new claims 36 – 39 as follows:

--36. The system of claim 1, wherein the transfer is of two or more liquids to be mixed into a solution, wherein said solution is subsequently removed by an additional capillary.--

--37. A liquid-handling system for removal and loading of liquids from a container, the system comprising:

a first container;

a housing encasing the first container in a pressure tight manner;

a first capillary tube having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximal end is positioned near the bottom of the first container, the distal end is positioned near the bottom of a second container, and the tube extends through the housing;

a second capillary tube having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the proximal end is positioned near the bottom of the first container, the distal end is positioned near the bottom of a second container, and the tube extends through the housing;

a computer-controlled pressure altering device, attached to the housing in a pressure tight manner, that changes the pressure within the housing relative to the pressure outside the housing;

wherein the pressure-altering device applies a pressure differential that deposits and removes liquids in the container in either direction through the capillary tubes.--

--38. The system as recited in claim 37 wherein the pressure-altering device applies a pressure differential that transfers liquid through only the first capillary tube.--